David Scott Palmer

Professor of International Relations and Political Science. (B.A., Dartmouth College; M.A., Stanford University; Ph.D., Cornell University)

Specialization: Comparative Politics, International Relations, Latin American Studies.

Professor Palmer has published four books, most recently a second edition of The Shining Path of Peru, and has a fifth forthcoming on the Clinton administration's policies towards Latin America. He is also the author of more than 40 articles and book chapters on such topics as the Latin American military, democracy and its challenges, "informal politics" in highland Peru, guerrilla movements in Latin America and Nepal, the Peru-Ecuador border dispute and its resolution, and the consequences of asymmetry in U.S. relations with Peru. He consults regularly for the U.S. State Department, the National Intelligence Council, and the U.S. Agency for International Development.

At Boston University, Professor Palmer has served as Chairman of the Political Science Department, Associate Chairman of the Department of International Relations, and as Director of Latin American Studies and Co-Director of Peru Summer, both programs that he helped to found. Before joining the Boston University faculty, he spent twelve years with the State Department as Chair of Latin American and Caribbean Studies and Associate Dean for Programs of the School of Area Studies at the Foreign Service Institute. He has also taught at a number of colleges and universities, including Bowdoin, Princeton, Georgetown, George Washington, The School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) of Johns Hopkins, Salamanca (Spain), Catholic University (Peru), and The University of Chile. He served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Peru and was awarded a Fulbright Senior Lecturer Fellowship to the University of Huamanga (Ayacucho, Peru).

Professor Palmer teaches courses only during the fall semester.